Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, KS

SUBJECT: SEVENTH U.S.-KOREA COMMERCE MINISTERS MEETING

- 1. AT SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING (MEMCON FOLLOWS), SECRETARY MORTON AND KOREAN AMBASSADOR HAHM AGREED, IN PRINCIPLE, THAT NEXT COMMERCE MINISTER'S MEETING WILL BE HELD EARLY NEXT YEAR. EXACT TIMING WILL BE WORKED OUT BY MID-NOVEMBER BETWEEN COMMERCE AND ROK EMBASSY WASHINGTON. LENGTH AND FORMAT WILL BE SIMILAR TO PAST MEETINGS. FYI. SECRETARY ALSO MAY VISIT OTHER EA POSTS OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE INTEREST TO U.S. END FYI.
- 2. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING BY OCTOBER 5 EMBASSY ANALYSIS AND SUGGESTIONS, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY, OF ISSUES TO BE INCLUDED IN AGENDA BY U.S. WE ANTICIPATE THESE WILL INCLUDE CURRENT IMPEDIMENTS TO TWO-WAY EXPANSION OF U.S.-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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KOREA TRADE INVESTMENT AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. WE JUDGE

THAT MEETING MOST LIKELY BE USEFUL IF FOCUS IS MAINTAINED ON MATTERS FALLING WITHIN JURISDICTION OF RESPECTIVE COMMERCE MINISTERS, SUCH AS, FOR EXAMPLE, THOSE ASPECTS OF KOREA'S RESTRICTIVE IMPORT SYSTEM GOVERNED BY MINISTRY OF

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY RATHER THAN BY FINANCE MINISTRY OR ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD.

3. ALSO, EMBASSY LISTING OF ITEMS IT BELIEVES ROKG WILL WISH TO HAVE ON AGENDA WOULD BE APPRECIATED. KISSINGER

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